

THE HAMPDEN-SYDNEY TIGER



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Sitting Down With The New Student Body President

Chad Pisano '19
Editor-in-Chief

Many students are likely anxious to know what plans their new Student Body President has in mind. In order to alleviate some of these concerns, I was able to conduct an interview with the newly minted President Good, who at the time of this interview was already four days into his term. For those who may not know him, Michael Good is a junior from Virginia—"born and raised"—who hails from Virginia Beach. Initially drawn to H-SC for the beautiful campus, the unique people, and "magical" environment, he quickly became involved as a student. Some of his past and current experiences on campus have been working as an honor court advisor, becoming the House Manager and Vice President of the Kappa Sigma fraternity, helping out with the "No More" campaign, and holding a seat on the College Activities Committee. He likes to hunt and fish in his free time, and enjoys "experiences more than items...getting out there and meeting as many people as possible."

Covered next in the interview was the specifics of Good's presidency, beginning with the basics: what exactly does the Student Body President do?

Good clarified that "The duties of the president are to, above all else, be a liaison to the administration from the student body, as well as a liaison to the student body from the administration, and also to help orchestrate meetings between individuals involved with the honor court and to be outside of court cases for support." In this role, Good stated with confidence that he felt himself to be the ideal ambassador between the student body and the administration.

When asked what he hoped to accomplish during his term, Good highlighted three main goals. His first stated goal was "to increase student involvement in administrative decisions.... [he doesn't] just want students to be aware; [he wants] them to have an active voice in the decisions being made so there's nothing unexpected" or unwanted dropped on the student body. Another thing he specified he wanted to do is to "increase campus activity." Specifically, he said that he and the other new student government officers, namely the new CAC chair Vince Babashak '19, "want to increase the live music scene around campus: at the TI, around freshman dorms, and get as many people out of their rooms as possible." Another way he hoped to keep the H-SC community active was to "get clubs involved with other clubs. Really just unite everyone... and create the most enjoyable

environment here at H-SC." His final large scale goal "is to alleviate freshman and RA tensions... [he'd] really like the RAs to cater more towards the freshman instead of just trying to please the administration."



Michael Good (Photo: Michael Good)

This final answer naturally led into another question: does Good's goals align with the administration's, or are they aimed in a different direction? He quickly dispelled such speculation, saying "It's better to work with the administration than turn a cold shoulder... It's my job to make sure that the decisions being made are instilling the values of Hampden-Sydney in the school while pleasing the students,

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Election Fraud In The Recent Election

Wade Bredin '20
Guest Contributor

Two weeks ago, the student government held its annual executive elections for the positions of President, Secretary-Treasurer, Honor Court Chairman, and CAC Chairman. The winners of these elections should be congratulated and thanked for their commitment to serving the College. However, there was a bit of a scandal regarding the election and now, three weeks later, the Tiger is ready to sort out what occurred and what has happened since.

The elections were held on Tuesday, February 27th and conducted through the website Survey Monkey. The polls were created by Chairman of Elections and Surveys Parker Smith and were sent out to the student body by then-President Sam Murphy at 9:00am. Results were sent out to the student body at 9:00pm.

Four days later, on Thursday the 2nd, students received an email from the Student Senate. The email stated that the Senate had been "made aware of suspicions of voter fraud" and "students were allegedly going back into the voting system and voting for their chosen candidate multiple times." After being made aware of these al-

legations and in concordance with the Hampden-Sydney Constitution, the Student Senate conducted a full investigation into the election and the claims of voter fraud. The Senate found that "11 students re-entered the voting system, five of whom being student government officers testing the possibility of double voting. The remaining six individuals did in fact enter the voting system and submitted additional votes." The email continued to specify that there were twelve total votes that came from the aforementioned six individuals and that even after discounting their votes "the margin of error was not close enough to warrant a revote." The six individuals that re-entered the system were not named in the email, but the Senate did offer a public rebuke: "shame on you. We know who these individuals are and we are saddened by the poor conduct they have shown."

After a promise to revise the election process so as to prevent this from occurring again, the email ended. The email was signed by the Student Body President, Student Court Chairman, Chairman of the Student Senate, Chairman of Elections and Surveys, and by Richard Pan-tele, the Associate Dean of Students.

The Tiger set out to determine more about this matter, answering some of the questions that had been floating around campus since its oc-

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INFO



The Hampden-Sydney Tiger

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New President Continued

alumni and administration... and I know that can be done." When asked what he saw as the pressing needs of the campus, he responded "everyone complains about the food [so that will continue to be addressed]... Whatever other issues come up will be addressed."

Good, who is also on the Greek Week Committee, was able to comment on the recently altered Sydney tradition. According to him, "All the worries about Greek Week need to be put to rest... We found a way to work with the administration... it's going to be a philanthropy based Greek Week." It will be philanthropy based through "various fun events each day" hosted by the each fraternity. After each day, everyone is going to be able to have their [party]. It's going to be the same Greek Week that we've always had [except the Monday night party], but at this time of negative connotation for fraternities... we're trying to, not take away what we have, but enrich our Greek life system... get the students involved, have more philanthropy, and not just be around for the drinking. You can have a couple beers with your buddies and still help out your community."

Ultimately, Good finished the interview by saying "I'm excited. I've met a lot of people recently... It's really been a great opportunity... I feel very confident that this is going to be a great year, a productive year. I'm a very traditional person, and I think there's no need for pointless change. I think we can modernize and still keep the Hampden-Sydney values and traditions that have made us a respected institution for 243 years." The Tiger wishes him all the best as he adjusts to his new and consequential duties.

Improvements at The Commons

Hank Hollingshead '19
Staff Writer

As we all know, there have been some interesting new changes this semester at the dining hall, the place both affectionately and unaffectionately referred to as "the Moans". All of us who are whining, picky eaters are glad to have such good news about our main dining area. Early in the semester everyone all received an email promising these changes, and we at the Tiger have decided to take a look into these new additions and alterations.

To begin, I interviewed the food service director himself, Mr. Larry Shepard. He has been running the Pannill Commons for a year and a half now. He explained to me that he had received feedback from students via mediums such as facebook, personal discussion, and from the Food Service Council itself, which is what prompted him to try and improve the standard of Settle Hall. His mission can be defined in two parts: improving food quality and adding food variety.

The prime example of these changes is the meat carving station. Mr. Shepard himself can often be seen cutting and serving a variety of interesting meats. There are, he told me, eight different kinds of meat, which are constantly being cycled around and changed up. These include ham, turkey, tenderloin, prime rib, and several kinds of steak.

I decided to inquire about a change that I had personally noticed, to wit, the cakes. When asked, Shepard confirmed that there were things happening in that department. The baker in charge of that has taken it upon herself to experiment with unique and delicious new methods, making her confections both visually and gustato-

rily incredible. These methods involve things like decorative whipped cream, caramel, cherries, nuts, chocolate chips and even crumbled brownies.

As a frequent visitor to the salad bar and sandwich station (there I go making myself sound healthier than I am) the change in the bread variety surprised and pleased me. The variety of buns and breads, from rye to sourdough, certainly makes the healthier diet more inviting.

Perhaps the largest focus of these changes is Mr. Shepard's dedication to improving the food already served. He has made sure to "focus on food quality, as well as proper cooking techniques." This means that all the complaints I've heard about the seafood, meat and vegetables are going to be finally stifled. Food will be checked for the correct temperature and thoroughness before being served.

Additionally, they've taken a good look at certain quirks and characteristics of their food. One good example is the grilled cheese sandwich problem. One of the most vocal complaints I have heard from students is about the tomato slice that was grilled into the sandwich. I do not know if it was intended to make the meal slightly healthier, supplement the lack of tomato soup (if you've never had grilled cheese and tomato soup, you don't know what you're missing) or someone thought that college age men would like the taste. Regardless, the whining on that regard has stopped, and I'd be lying if I didn't say a fair amount of that whining was mine.

With properly cooked food, and small culinary details like this, the Pannill Commons appears to be making a comeback. I am able to look forward to eating there again, every day, thanks to these changes. The source of food at an all men's college is one of the most important details, and I'm glad that they are taking steps to improve it.



OPINIONS

Why America and Russia Can Never Be Friends

Chad Pisano '19
Editor-in-Chief

The election of Donald Trump brought a dramatic shift to the United States' foreign policy towards Russia. After supposedly becoming friendly nations at the end of the 20th century, following the collapse of the Soviet Union, relations between the two countries have gradually frozen over as the Russian Federation has sought to reassert itself on the international stage. Breaking with the strategy of former President Barrack Obama, President Trump has publicly declared his affinity for Russia, its dictatorial leader Vladimir Putin, and its aggressive and blatantly self-centered foreign policy. He has also stated in a series of recent tweets that "Getting along with Russia (and others) is a good thing, not a bad thing... They can help solve problems with North

Korea, Syria, Ukraine, ISIS, Iran and even the coming Arms Race. Bush tried to get along, but didn't have the 'smarts.' Obama and Clinton tried, but didn't have the energy or chemistry (remember RESET). PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH!" Aside from the obvious shots at his immediate predecessors, and a worrying allusion to an apparently inevitable "Arms Race" approaching in the near future, Trump's tweet reveals a basic misunderstanding that he and many have about international relations "Getting along with Russia... [isn't] a bad thing." According to him, it is a good thing, something to be sought out and coveted. The sad truth of the situation isn't just that getting along with Russia is a bad thing—it's that such a scenario is likely impossible so long as the United States retains the rule of law.

To truly understand the opposite natures of these two extremely powerful countries, one must first understand the political character of their

peoples. Americans are raised understanding that their country originated first in the thoughts of men like John Locke, whose ideas were clearly applied by our founding fathers in our constitution. They believed that a country that emphasized "life, liberty,

"getting along with Russia [isn't] just a bad thing- it's... impossible so long as the United States retains the rule of law."

and property" would be a truly just one. The subsequent political organization of America shows just how strictly Americans have followed this format—we have a liberal democracy, which is a government that emphasizes personal freedoms, property rights, and the rule of law. Our for-

eign policy is moralistic and externally focused—rather than driven by realpolitik and self-interest, the US promotes democracy and personal freedom. The political character of the Russian people, however, is both older and murkier. Their first modern gov-

the supremacy of Eastern Orthodox Christianity against perceived threats by minority groups like Jewish people. The government, despite occasional successful reform efforts carried out by various Emperors, remained one of the most powerful and authoritarian in the world until it was overthrown in the Russian Revolution; an event that led to the establishment of the Soviet Union, a nation that stood against some of the most basic principles of the American democracy.

After the success of the Bolsheviks in 1922, and in fact even before that, America and the USSR remained in steadfast opposition to each other. This culminated in the half-century long Cold War, where the ideologies of liberal democracy and capitalism were pitted against those of authoritarianism and communism. Many people may assume that the diametric opposition of these two countries towards each other ended in 1991, with the fall of the USSR. In fact, Russia

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H-SC's Value Increases In the Information Age

Graham Comeau '18
Guest Contributor

As the advent of the fourth industrial revolution is on the horizon, the demand for professionals with technical backgrounds continues to rise. The fourth industrial revolution can be characterized by the usage of technology blurring the lines between physical, digital, and biological worlds. During this revolution the usage of data, machine learning, and artificial intelligence will drastically reshape the operations of our world. As the necessity for data professionals with highly technical skillsets continues to rise, many believe pursuing a liberal arts degree will leave them behind the

curve in this new technology driven world. While some may have lost sight of the value of a liberal arts degree, our education places us in a position to capitalize on this change in times.

The demand for professionals with technical skillsets is growing at an exorbitant rate. A study by the International Data Corporation recently estimated that the demand for professionals with deep analytical skills reached 181,000 in 2018. In addition, over nearly 1 million professionals are needed with data management and interpretation skills. Furthermore, these jobs offer enticing salaries. The average data scientist earns \$105,000 annually, while data engineers earn \$117,000. While the job opportunities and salaries are both highly attractive, these jobs require a technical background in statistics, mathematics, programming, data mining, and

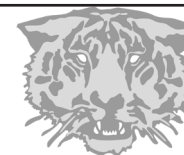
modeling. However, to truly harbor the power of the fourth industrial revolution we must form professionals with not only technical abilities, but critical thinking skills as well.

Contrary to the belief of some, the advent of the fourth industrial revolution should come as good news to those on the Hill. Our liberal arts education provides us with a well-rounded skillset that allows us to question, analyze, and assess problems in a manner that many other institutions fail to provide. In the class room, we are challenged to think critically about the problems society faces, analyze these problems from a variety of perspectives, and propose sound solutions based on analytical reasoning. While these skills may not directly translate in to the requisites necessary to become a professional with technical skills, they provide a framework of

thought that will allow one to better solve problems in a technology driven world. Our rhetoric program further provides us a platform that allows one to articulate his findings in a manner that is both clear and convincing. This is an invaluable skill for professionals as their success in the workplace is often dependent on their ability to effectively present their findings to their coworkers, a problem that often plagues many technical professionals.

If one then couples this framework of thought and rhetoric with technical skills such as statistics, mathematics, programming, data mining, and modeling he will be in a position to excel as a professional in this new technology driven world. There are a variety of classes offered through the Computer Science, Mathematics, and Economics departments that educate on these technical subjects. In addition,

Hampden-Sydney has organized graduate agreements with school such as Wake Forest and William & Mary who offer Master's Programs geared towards developing professionals with these technical skillsets. This places students on the Hill in an even stronger position when considering 39% of data driven positions require a Masters or Ph.D. These programs provide an excellent opportunity for graduates with a strong quantitative affinity to further receive the technical training necessary to excel in a technology driven career during these revolutionary times. Ultimately our liberal arts education places us in an even stronger position than our peers to harbor the power of the fourth industrial revolution when coupled with a technical skillset.



Sydney Targets Another Large Freshman Class; No Changes To Housing

Wade Bredin '20
Guest Contributor

Last week the Tiger sat down with President Stimpert to discuss his plans for the incoming Class of 2022. The conversation focused on the make-up and size of the newest freshmen class and the effects this might have on the College. We started by asking about class size; rumors abound of an increasing student body (following the trend) and the possibilities of freshmen living in Venable or more off-campus permits being handed out to make room. President Stimpert explained that he wants to see a student body of around 1,150, up from the current enrollment of 1,050: "I think we could have the student body be a little bit larger without having to add staff or faculty at the College, and so that would help us from an economic standpoint. It would mean more money to do more good across campus, and so I think that we're looking to grow the student body just a little bit." And no, the President assured us, that increase does not mean that freshman will be moving into Venable come August. In the same vein, our class sizes will not increase enough to change the very distinctive student:faculty ratio (currently at 10:1). In fact, I was reassured by both Dean Hollemon, the new Associate Dean of Housing, and by Dean Sabbatini that there are currently no plans to have freshman living outside of their traditional dorms next year. Dean Hollemon was also squashed the rumor that we are at capacity in terms

of housing; in fact, we are far from it.

In terms of retention, the President indicated that four-year retention was something he has very high hopes for: "I am idealistic enough to want every single student who enrolls here as a freshman to graduate four years later." Dr. Stimpert also discussed his desire to expand the geographical footprint of the College: "Before the year 2000 we were about 60% out of state and 40% Virginian. Over the last several years we've kind of reversed that...so basically we just want to get back to where we were before." Besides increasing the geographical footprint, Dr. Stimpert also wants to increase the racial diversity of the College, up from the current minority enrollment which sits at 16%. In terms of the students that will make up the freshman class, the President pointed out that the administration has pretty much figured out who will come here and succeed: those who were successful in high school, those who leaders before they came to Sydney, and those most likely athletes or interested in outdoor activities like hunting or hiking. Stimpert commented on the successful Sydney students who come here, saying, "You know again, I think you can't be what you're not, and we're trying to be really authentic and true to who we are and we know these are the guys who are in some ways our guys."

When asked about future plans for housing on-campus, the President said that student housing will be renovated, and that new residence halls will be built at some point in the future. Dean Sabbatini told us that a comprehensive task force was formed to work on this: "We have formed a Housing Task Force to look at our facilities. I believe everyone is in agree-

ment that our housing is weathered. We have a real opportunity with this. The task force is composed of Board of Trustees members, staff, and students. Everything is on the table from new construction to renovation plans of all facilities. Again, this is very exciting." The construction of new housing will be done in phases (as students will still need to fill them) and President Stimpert "doesn't want anybody to think that it's going to happen tomorrow," but that we should count on it occurring at some point down the road.

In conclusion, the incoming class will be slightly larger than in the past, with the goal to increase the total enrollment by about 100 students. The President would like to see these students be a mixture of "traditional" Sydney students while simultaneously bringing in more students from racially diverse backgrounds and an expanded geographical envelope. This increase will not necessarily require new housing, as we are not at housing capacity, but new housing is one of the longer term goals being worked on regardless of the size of next year's freshman class.

The New Face of The Honor Court: Connor Eads

Jacob Ranson '18
Guest Contributor

Roughly two weeks after February's elections, Hampden-Sydney's new student body leaders officially took office and accepted the responsibilities entailed in their positions. Between Michael Good winning the

campus, it is important for all students to have at least a general understanding of who our new leaders are and what is involved within their roles. Connor Eads, replacing the previous chairman Josh Katowitz, has stepped up to the plate for his term as the head of the Honor Court and is excited for what his new position has in store. As the Honor Court Chairman, Eads is responsible for running the court and ensuring proper procedure is followed. Additionally, the Chairman has the responsibility of determining sanc-

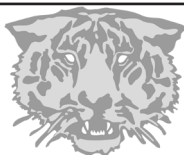
"For Eads, this position is much more than just something to put on a resume."

position of Student Body President, Connor Eads taking Honor Court Chairman, Garner Bayless taking Secretary-Treasurer, and Vince Babashak taking CAC Chairman, it is certain that Hampden-Sydney will be in good hands throughout the upcoming year. Although these four gentlemen are fairly well-known around

tions for those who are found in violation of the Code of Conduct. Eads, a current junior, has proven himself to be a hard worker during his time on the Hill with campus involvement including President's Men, two years on the Student Senate (one year as Treasurer), and one year on the Honor Court. Furthermore, he is currently Vice President of the pre-law fraternity Phi Alpha Delta, Vice President of the pre-law society, and a Writing Center tutor. Such an exhaustive list of campus involvement certainly raises the question of why someone would want to take on another job – especially one as strenuous as Honor Court Chairman. However, for Eads, this position is much more than just something to put on a resume. When asked about how his judgment of honor was formed, he replied, "I grew up in a household where honor was a focal point of how we were to conduct

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Election Fraud Continued

currence. Most confusing to many students was the question of “Why have these students not been brought before the Honor Court?” We have seen some controversial Honor Court cases and decisions this year, making it surprising to hear that six students who were found by a Student Government investigation to have engaged in fraud would not be held accountable for it.

The Student Body President, as outlined in the Key, is responsible for deciding which cases continue to the Honor Court and which do not. As Sam Murphy was the President during the election, it was his decision whether or not to prosecute these six individuals. The Tiger discussed the question with the former President, and this is what we discovered. According to Murphy, there was substantial doubt surrounding the allegation that the students in question had intended to commit fraud. Instead, it was possible that they had misused the election link or system, and the double votes had been accidental. They may have believed that their votes had not gone through, or there may have been some sort of technical error involved in their re-entering the system. One theory was that the poll often “timed out” and left the voter confused as to whether or not his votes had been cast. The logic behind this theory is based around the fact that none of the six individuals voted more than twice: if someone had voted fifteen times, for example, the accusation of intentional deceit would be more believable, as reasonably nobody would risk their honor for the sake of one extra vote. Murphy stated the sentiment well when he told me that he “couldn’t justify how somebody could have hit the refresh button and then find themselves being sent out of school.”

It was going to be close to impossible to prove that these individuals had really intended to commit fraud rather than making a simple mistake.

For this reason, Mr. Murphy decided not to move forward with an Honor Court accusation. However, this raises the question that if this is what the members of the investigation believed, why did they pronounce shame on these unnamed individuals? They must have believed that it was intentional fraud, or else they would have mentioned the error hypothesis in the email, or at the very least said nothing regarding their blame or guilt, instead of saying “shame on you.”

We sat down with Chairman of the Student Senate Luke Bloodworth to see if he could help sort out our questions regarding the investigation and the email. He independently confirmed everything that Murphy stated, including the important fact that none of the six individuals voted more than twice. He also emphasized the fact that even with the 12 votes being completely voided, the margin of victory was still large enough to give a clear victory to the winners. When asked about the “shame on you” clause in the school-wide email, Bloodworth answered that “if it was premeditated, these students should feel ashamed. But if it was an accident, then I see how that could have happened, too.” Bloodworth also informed us that there were no interviews done with the six unnamed individuals, as it was deemed unnecessary by the members of the Senate and other student government officials.

We also sat down with Chairman of Elections and Surveys Parker Smith in order to understand exactly how this occurred, and what was being done in the future to prevent this from happening again. Smith stated that there is a new system, already created, that will be used in future elections and that will prevent this from happening again. Future elections will be done through a TigerWeb connected system, where student ID’s will be required to vote. Smith assured the

student body that this issue was resolved swiftly and will not be repeated, and that the new TigerWeb based system is ready for use in the next elections and future elections after that.

Sam Murphy wants the student body to come away from this with a renewed confidence in their student government, noting that the entire issue was handled properly and swiftly. He also pointed out that there was no organized effort to defraud the election: that once the flaw in the system was discovered, there was no rally among students to elect their candidate. For that reason Mr. Murphy commended the student body, and concluded our interview by commending the winners of the election and wishing them the best of luck.

If you are one of these six individuals and would like to reach out to the Tiger with an explanation regarding your double vote or your opinion on anything written in this article, we encourage you to do so by emailing newspaper@hsc.edu or by contacting the author or the editor.

Senate Snapshot

Keifer Pfister '20
Staff Writer

President Good and Chairman Eads met with the Senate this last Monday to briefly address complications and to smooth over old conflicts. Newly elected President Good addressed the Senate first. He said that the executive under him is not looking for drama. He despises poor communication and looks forward to working with the Senate in the upcoming year. He has great ideas for next year, specifically about boosting sports attendance, and he believes that the Senate is a good avenue to pursue his vision. He also stated that his first priority is implementing a foolproof election system so that there are not problems. Eads simply called for more transparency and increased communication. He reiterated that he finds it unnecessary to implement a lesser sanction than current semester suspension for a guilty honor court violation. He stated that this upcoming year he would be looking for more advisors and investigators staff, specifically underclassman staff.

Thank You

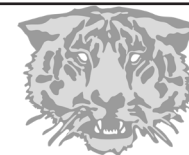
Alex P.B. Chalgren '21
Guest Contributor

The Student Honor Court at Hampden-Sydney College is unlike any other in country. Sydney men value upholding honor and integrity above anything else. In fact, if you are like me, the honor system is one of the important reasons I decided to join the brotherhood because I realized that the desire of mutual respect is strongly felt here. You have elected me as a member of this Honor Court and I do not take this responsibility lightly. I would like to thank everyone for trusting me to uphold the values of this Hampden Sydney institution as well as believing in our shared vision. I could not have won without your support. Thank you to all the others who ran in this hard fought contest! I look forward to gleaning ideas from you in the future. Congratulations to the other winners as well. I leave you with a quotation by Abraham Lincoln, “Character is like a tree and reputation like a shadow. The shadow is what we think of it; the tree is the real thing.” Whatever tree you are, be strong and well rooted.

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ODK Announces Wilson 5k Run

Skylar Robinson '18
Guest Contributor

Brothers,

Over the last year, Hampden-Sydney College has suffered the loss of several honorable men. These men dedicated their lives to the mission of forming good men and good citizens. In June of 2017, the community lost one of our most revered leaders: Lieutenant General Samuel V. Wilson, U.S. Army (Retired). General Sam Wilson served as Hampden-Sydney College's president from 1992 to 2000. Under the leadership of General Wilson, Hampden-Sydney College recovered from a period of uncertainty in which enrollment and growth had steadily declined. General Wilson also laid the foundation for the Wilson Center for Leadership in the Public Interest. To honor the memory of General Sam Wilson and extend his legacy into the future,, Omicron Delta Kappa and the Wilson Leadership Center are sponsoring the first annual Wilson Trail 5k Run.

The Wilson Trail 5k Run is open to students of any college. Participants are free to run, walk, or give a generous donation by using the online registration link posted below. Scheduled for Saturday morning of Greek Week, April 7th, the Wilson Trail 5k Run is an opportunity for the community to come together and assist General Wilson with our mission of forming good men and good citizens well beyond his years on the Hill. By registering early online at a discounted price, participants are guaranteed a t-shirt. Online registration closes on March 30th. The

registration link and details regarding the locations, times, and prices of registration can be found below:

Registration Link:
<https://secure4.hsc.edu/formsevents/view.php?id=36169>

Day-Of Registration Time: 8 am,
Wilson Center Lawn.

Start Time of 5k: 9:30 am, Cushing
Lawn.

Price of Admission: 15.00 online
registration, 20.00 cash only on day
of the event.

Included in Admission Package: Black drawstring cinch bag,
bib number, sports bottle, guaranteed t-shirt conditional on online registration, and a light snack.

If there are any questions regarding the Wilson Trail 5k Run, please free to contact me by email at RobinsonS18@hsc.edu.

High Expectations For Lacrosse This Year

Stewart Thames '19
Sports Editor

The 2017 ODAC Champions have started their 2018 season with a 6-2 record and are currently on a three match winning streak. They are currently 2-0 in conference play, tied with Roanoke and Washington & Lee at the top of the standings.

The Tigers began their season with a difficult road match against #1 Salisbury. Last season, Salisbury knocked the Tigers out of Third Round of the NCAA Tournament by a score of 25-12. This time, the Tigers were able to stick around for the first half and had the game tied 4-4 at halftime. However, a 6 goal explosion from Salisbury in the 3rd period pulled Salisbury in front, and they cruised to a 16-7 victory over the Tigers. After the loss to Salisbury, the Tigers railed off three straight wins against Mary Washington, Greensboro, and Catholic, but the

Tigers experienced another setback on February 24th when they fell to undefeated #20 Christopher Newport 9-13. Fortunately, the Tigers rebounded quite nicely and pummeled rivals Randolph-Macon by a score of 18-7, following up that win with two more against Scranton and Bridgewater.

The Tigers have relied heavily on their seniors to put up points this season. Four of the team's top six point scorers are seniors. Ian Levin leads the

tied for fourth on the team in points.

While the Tigers have had a promising start to their season, the team is just now getting into the thick of conference play. The Tigers still have tough games ahead, particularly against conference foes Washington & Lee, Roanoke, and Lynchburg as well as an out-of-conference match against perennial Division III power Cabrini. After last season's ODAC Championship, the team has high

“One of our mottos this year has been ‘last year’s goal is this year’s expectation.’”

team with 18 goals and 12 assists (30 pts) while fellow senior Hunter Brown is second on the team with 17 goals and 12 assists (29 pts). Perhaps one of the more surprising players for the Tigers this season has been freshman Jared Medwar of Apex, North Carolina. The attacker from Middle Creek High School has put up 13 goals and 4 assists (17 pts) this season, enough to be

expectations for this season. Senior midfielder Chandler Shaheen told The Tiger, “One of our mottos this year has been ‘last year’s goal is this year’s expectation.’” If the Tigers continue to improve and meet their own expectation of winning an ODAC Championship again, look for this team to be playing well into May.

Join our staff!

Writers, photographers, cartoonists and critics are all welcome to join the *Tiger* family. Shoot us an email at newspaper@hsc.edu, or drop in on our next weekly meeting held Monday, the 26th at 5pm. No application or experience necessary.

The Hampden-Sydney Tiger



SPORTS

Breaking Down The Sweet 16

Hot Takes

Stewart Thames '19
Sports Editor

What a weekend of basketball. There were buzzer-beaters, monumental comebacks, and, of course, upsets. Ryan Odom '96 led his UMBC Retrievers to one of the greatest sports upsets of all-time against #1 seeded UVa, and Loyola Chicago – along with Sister Jean – have become the Cinderella of this tournament. Meanwhile, Villanova and Duke have silently dispatched of both of their opponents with relative ease. After such a hectic weekend, I am sure that most you have a busted bracket (I know I do). The lull of this past week has given everyone a chance to reevaluate the bracket and figure out which team has the sweetest path to the Final Four. So without further ado, here is my take on the Sweet 16.

South Region

The Favorite: It has to be Kentucky, right? Only John Calipari can find a way to go against a #12, #13, and #9 seed in the first three rounds of the NCAA tournament. With the top four seeds in this region all being upset on the first weekend, the stars just seem to be aligning for Calipari's Wildcats. He has some of the best pure talent in the nation, and Kentucky seems to be peaking at just the right time.

The Sleeper: Loyola Chicago is the Cinderella of this tournament. The MVC Champions had one of the best moments of the first two rounds when Donte Ingram hit a buzzer-beater three-pointer against Miami. The #11 seeded Ramblers then followed that win with a nail-biter against a physical Tennessee team. This team is shooting 39% from the arc in the first two rounds and their next test is an undermanned Nevada.

How It All Goes Down: Calipari's Wildcats will get the easiest run to the Final Four I have ever seen in my lifetime. Kentucky will overpower Kansas State, and they will just squeeze by Loyola Chicago and Sister Jean in the Elite 8.

been sneaky good through these first two rounds. The Wildcats easily dispatched of the Highlanders, and they looked even better against Collin Sexton and Alabama. Who wants to play Villanova right now?

The Sleeper: This region has been pretty straightforward, but #3 Texas Tech is a better team than advertised.

“With the top four seeds in this region all being upset on the first weekend, the stars just seem to be aligning for Calipari’s Wildcats.”

West Region

The Favorite: Michigan has had a Jekyll and Hyde first two rounds: the Wolverines easily defeated Montana, and then needed a Jordan Poole buzzer-beating three to defeat a Houston team that dominated them for 35 minutes. Yet, they are the Big 10 Champions...

The Sleeper: Ask anyone who has watched SEC basketball this season and they will tell you that Texas A&M has some of the best talent in the conference. Injuries, and discipline issues have plagued the Aggies, but they have come to play this tournament. They beat a popular dark-horse pick, Providence, in the first round, and followed that up with a 21-point beat down over UNC.

How It All Goes Down: I am going out on a limb here and picking Gonzaga to get out of this region. Mark Few will get his Zags back to the Final Four after they defeat Florida State, and out-finesse Texas A&M in the Elite 8.

The Red Raiders defense is averaging giving up only 63 points in the first two rounds, and Keenan Evans, one of the best scorers in the country, is averaging 22.5 points this tournament.

How It All Goes Down: Texas Tech will barely get by Purdue, but they will be no match for the Villanova Wildcats. Villanova is the best team in the country right now, and they will have a spot in San Antonio.

Midwest Region

The Favorite: The Kansas Jayhawks have looked far from excellent these first two rounds, looking vulnerable at times to both Penn and Seton Hall. But they are the Big 12 champions for a reason, and Bill Self is doing an excellent coaching job with this Jayhawks squad.

The Sleeper: Many pundits had Jim Boenheim's squad in the "First Four Out" category on Selection Sunday, and, to be honest, this Syracuse team should not have made the tournament. Yet, here they are: Arizona State, TCU, and Michigan State all averaged more than 80 points a game this season, but none of them could even put up 60 against the Orange. There's something about that 2-3 zone.

How It All Goes Down: Wait, I haven't even talked about Coach K and Duke yet. Just like Villanova, the Blue Devils have quietly dominated these first two rounds. Coach K will figure out the 2-3 zone and get past Syracuse, and then Grayson Allen will go off against Kansas. Don't @ me.

“If UVA wants to win a championship, it might be time to stop recruiting choir-boy defensive players and start adopting a one-and-done system even if it’s dirty, Pitino style.”

-AH

“Tiger Woods finishes outside the top 25 at The Masters”

-CZ

If you or one of your friend agrees, disagrees, or has a quick hot-take that is relevant in the current sports world, do not hesitate to send it in. Reader interaction is important for this section to thrive. Your reactions or hot-takes can be submitted to newspaper@hsc.edu, and the best will be printed here in the next edition.



(Photo: printyourbrackets.com)



Opinion: The Storm Approaches As Mueller's Investigation Continues

Hayden Robinson '18
Guest Contributor

Recently, Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election has become a subject of great contention among politicians and voters alike. In early March, POLITICO reported that forty three percent of Republicans now held an unfavorable view of Special Prosecutor Robert Mueller, a spike from twenty seventy percent in July. This steady increase in partisan division over the Mueller investigation continues to grow and has resulted directly

from what many see as a misinformation campaign carried out by conservative media outlets (Fox News, Breitbart, etc.) and the Republican party's hesitation to support or continue any investigation surrounding or involving Trump. As right-wing resentment against the special prosecutor grows, Trump continues to test the limits of his political cover regarding the dismissal of senior officials that disagree or are simply not loyal.

Recently, Andrew McCabe, a senior FBI official was dismissed from the FBI with less than forty-eight hours to go before he collected pension. His termination was not only a vendetta carried out against an Obama holdover that was heavily involved

in the Clinton email investigation, but also, it was a pulse reading of how the country might react if a firing like his could be justified. Trump continues to mull over his options regarding the Mueller probe and many of his top advisers have asked him to let the investigation run its course. Yet, President

“Trump continues to test the limits of his political cover...”

Trump is unpredictable and with the recent departure of White House Communications Director Hope Hicks and other senior staff members, he is very much unchecked and even more irrational than usual. President

Trump knows the Mueller investigation is intensifying by the day, and just last week, Mueller issued his first round of subpoenas for the Trump organization on any documents relating to Russia. This also coincides with the ongoing discussion between the special prosecutor and the President's

ter and sporadic campaign rallies to declare that this is “Fake News.” His continued interference only strengthens Mueller's obstruction of justice case, and ultimately, the evidence to indict the President and his associates has likely already been found. The issue now is to build such a strong case that the hardline conservatives of the Republican party simply cannot refute the evidence, and in turn, Mueller must not only be patient with his investigation, but also, he must be mindful of the imminent partisan attack that could potentially derail his entire investigation. As the weeks go by, the competing headlines will continue to pour out as the investigation is at a crossroads that could very well determine the course of our nation.

Finally, I will leave you all with a tweet put out on Friday morning by former FBI director James Comey. He wrote, “Mr. President, the American people will hear my story very soon. And they can judge for themselves who is honorable and who is not”. Let's hope for the sake of our Great Republic, honor prevails.

Russia and America Continued

adopted a liberal democratic system after the collapse of communism, allowing free elections, total freedom of speech and ideology, and theoretically aligned themselves with the US in many foreign and domestic policy practices. But this adoption of liberal democracy did not last long—perhaps because of the political character of the Russian people. As Westerners have seen in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Libya, it is not easy to establish democracies that emphasize freedom in places not used to exercising that right. For many people, it is just another way of life, no less and no more valid than a communist regime or theocracy. As has happened in many other countries, the experiment in democracy failed in Russia—state sponsored media dominates one of the most dangerous countries for a journalist to operate in. Major political challengers are jailed, and the opposition is disenfranchised. Freedom of expression exists only to praise the government.

The Russian state does a great job of claiming to be a liberal democracy, but under basically any measure, they are a failed state in that regard. Their foreign policy demonstrates this. Rather than focus on propagating liberalism (in the western sense of the term, not leftist), Russia sows chaos where the West creates order, because their country's basic ideological principles are not aligned with the West; where America and Europe want to create freedom and democracy, Russia seeks to establish similar strong-arming tyrannies that repress truth for the sake of nationalist unity and align themselves with Russia against the West. By championing countries like Syria, North Korea, and Iran, Russia is able to sap US strength without openly acknowledging that they support the repressive and immoral governments of these countries. They point to minority poverty levels in the US when they are criticized for inequality, but a blind man could see

that that Russia is a far worse place for minorities. By masquerading as a liberal democracy, they avoid the total censure of the US while funding and promoting chaos everywhere else that the US and its allies have to deal with.

The plain fact of the matter is that after a failed experiment with democracy, the status quo is back. Russia is a disruptive force of tyranny and chaos wherever it can be, while the US is a champion of freedoms and human rights in the face of Russian-led cries of “Mind your own business!” The political roots and philosophies of these countries are diametrically opposed, and even where Russia proclaims its affinity for the US, they meddle in the affairs of its allies and America itself. A politician that preaches closeness with Russia is a man who asks his nation to hug a burning fire. Cordial relations with foreign nations are nice where they can be found, but they should never come at the expense of American interests, and truth.

legal team regarding the terms of an interview of the President by the special counsel. President Trump knows the investigation will soon begin to center around his finances, property holdings, and his firing of FBI director James Comey this past summer.

Options for the President to thwart the investigation are limited and many Republicans have declared the firing of Robert Mueller as a red line and the beginning of the end of the Trump presidency. Yet, President Trump continues to attempt to delegitimize the investigation via his Twitter

Honor Court Continued

ourselves.” Coming from a military family, Eads has always been surrounded by those who respect honor and the weight that it carries. Furthermore, he claims that his perception of honor and, more specifically, the Honor Code, has been greatly influenced and solidified through conversations he's had with alumni and current students during his involvement with President's Men. In regard to the upcoming term and his future legacy, Eads' goal is for there to be a greater level of transparency between the court and the student body. Furthermore, he doesn't want students to view the Honor Code as something

that must be followed simply out of fear, but rather because it is a necessary step in the process of becoming a Hampden-Sydney man. Above all, Eads wants the ethical principles instilled on the Hill to be conveyed into the world even after students graduate. Although he has a long and likely stressful term ahead of him, we can rest assured that he will serve the Honor Court and the student body well; with such a sound understanding of the Honor Code and what the word “honor” itself means, it would be difficult to find a better candidate for the job than Connor Eads.